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Family Services
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STATE OF MONTANA
DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY SERVICES

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STRATEGIC PLAN

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State of Montana Department of Family Services
Strategic Plan

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A VISION FOR CHILDREN'S SERVICES

The Department of Family Services' Strategic Plan is rooted in a vision of protective services/life-long planning that addresses the needs of at-risk children and adults to be protected by supporting:

- a balanced system inclusive of the needs of at-risk children and adults that is culturally sensitive, family-centered, comprehensive, flexible and community-based;
- methods and tools which respect the strengths and dignity of families and communities;
- the family to emerge from patterns of abuse or neglect or exploitation of a family member;
- strengthening prevention and family support services;
- a commitment to assure that all child clients have a life-long family connection.
- a full and integrated continuum of services (prevention through intensive out-of-home treatment);
- quality assurance and evaluation; and
- inclusion of Native Americans in all department and inter-agency planning efforts for increasing the system of community-based, family-oriented services.

I. INTRODUCTION

The State Family Services Advisory Council was created to perform a number of important duties regarding services to Montana youth and families. One of these duties is to "develop a Strategic Plan for the department" (Section 52-1-202(2)(a)). The purpose of the Strategic Plan is to guide and unify the internal efforts of the department and provide a framework for collaboration and education within communities to ensure completion of its mission.

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Department of Family Services is to,

"Protect Children and Adults by Supporting Family and Community Strengths."

In developing the Strategic Plan, the state council, in conjunction with the Department of Family Services (DFS), has several important documents to guide their work. One of these documents is the Montana Family Policy Act (HB 18, 1993 Legislature) which states, "The following principles must guide the actions of state government:

> ...(a) family support and preservation must be guiding philosophies when the state, state agencies, or agents of the State Plan to implement services for children or families...."

This act further describes the philosophy and vision policymakers prescribe for Montana's family services programs. The department built upon the Family Policy Act by adopting its mission statement.

A community-based and family-centered services system can exist only if a strong infrastructure is created to support it. It must be a creation of the community it serves and cannot be imprinted from outside. Therefore, it must be inclusive, not locking out any member or group in the community. The Strategic Plan reflects Montana's changing philosophical focus and begins to implement the services necessary to accomplish the department's mission and goals. The department is committed to developing a system of community-based and family-based services that will treat families as entire units when at all possible.

A great challenge comes in implementing a balanced system that supports a full array (continuum) of services for children and families with a full spectrum of "in home" family preservation and support services and "out-of-home" services for children and adults requiring more intensive intervention for limited or extended periods of time. These services

include regular and specialized foster care, group care, therapeutic foster care, therapeutic group care, community corrections, and residential treatment.

II. STATE AND LOCAL ROLES

The department and the State Family Services Advisory Council are supported by and, in turn, support local family services advisory councils. Local councils provide information on local issues and needs (Section 52-1-203(2)(a)(c)). In order for each participant in the family services community to achieve its maximum potential in support of the Family Policy Act, respective roles must be understood.

State Family Services Advisory Council

(1) The governor shall appoint a presiding officer and up to three other members to 2-year terms to the State Family Services Advisory Council to advise the director on policies relating to services for youth and families.

(2) The governor may also appoint the presiding officers of legislative committees that are related to youth and family services to serve as members of the council.

(3) The state council will be composed of representatives which adequately reflect areas of expertise, program needs, and local interest.

(4) The state council will develop the department's Strategic Plan in conjunction with department staff. This plan will outline the state's vision for services to families, develop strategies for implementing that vision, and describe specific roles for the state council and local councils.

(5) The state council will establish broad goals and objectives for family service programs and evaluate their progress.

(6) The state council will advocate for the interests of children and families. This advocacy will include legislative involvement, the advancement of public understanding of the issues affecting families, and the furthering of public, private, and interagency relations.

(7) The state council will assist in the development of local councils.

(8) The state council will advise the governor on children and family issues.

(9) The state council will promote the development by local councils of a realistic estimate of needs and costs to accomplish a continuum of care of community-based services in their areas.

(10) The state council will also promote the development of planning by local councils to inform their legislators about the identified community needs.

Local Family Services Advisory Councils

(1) Each local council consists of at least seven and not more than 13 members.

(2) The director shall appoint members to each local advisory council.

(3) At least two members must be nominated by the county commissioners within the area.

(4) Local councils will be composed of representatives who adequately reflect local areas of expertise and program needs.
There are five regions:

I. Eastern (The Eastern Region is divided into three service areas: Miles City, Glendive and the Hi-Line).
II. North Central
III. South Central
IV. Southwest
V. Western

(5) A Native American will be a member of each DFS local advisory council; Item for discussion.

(6) Local councils will provide public information and an on-going forum for collaboration and discussion of issues affecting families and communities in their region. Based upon public input, councils will engage in a local planning process.

Department of Family Services Role in Relation to the State and Local Family Service Advisory Councils

(1) The department will administer and fund services in cooperation with the advice of local and state advisory councils. When department decisions on program development are made, the advice of local councils will be considered and reviewed by the state council.

(2) The department will provide information and analysis to support the planning and evaluating duties of the councils. In addition, the department will integrate council training needs into its training plan.

(3) The department will provide staff resources to the councils to support their efforts.

communicate with the public and provide a forum for the open discussion of issues affecting children and families.

(5) The department will aggressively pursue existing and new funding resources to develop a balanced community service system throughout the state.

III. PROGRAM AREAS

The department is responsible for a number of programs which serve Montana families. Some of these services are provided directly by DFS and others in cooperation with private and public entities. The department supports its mission through provision of programs that are categorized in the following manner:

1. Abuse Prevention and Family Support
2. Juvenile Corrections
3. Protective Services/Life-long Planning
4. Treatment Services

When the responsibilities of the department and the state and local advisory councils are overlaid on these four mandates, the department's Strategic Plan begins to take shape.

1) ABUSE PREVENTION AND FAMILY SUPPORT

GOAL: THE DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY SERVICES, IN CONJUNCTION WITH OTHER AGENCIES AND ORGANIZATIONS, WILL SUPPORT THE STRENGTHS OF FAMILIES, WITH FAMILY PRESERVATION AS THE PRIMARY GOAL OF SERVICES, AND WILL PROTECT THE BEST INTERESTS OF CHILDREN AND ADULTS.

Mandate(s):

HB 18	Family Policy Act, 1993 Montana State Legislature
HB 19	Joint Oversight Committee on Children and Families, 1993 State Legislature
SB 34	Interagency Coordinating Council for State Prevention, 1993 State Legislature

Statement of Purpose:

The department has historically addressed the prevention of child abuse and the support of families in crisis through several activities. These activities include: Child Abuse/Neglect Mini-Grants, Children's Trust Fund, and other grants supporting community-based programs that target prevention and family-based services for families at risk of having their children removed. Recently, the federal government authorized additional funds which are available

during FY 1994/95 biennium. In addition, the department has refinanced general fund services with federal dollars and, as directed by HB2 (1993 Legislature), will use these funds to reduce the incidence of child abuse and prevent foster care placements.

In order to accomplish our goal, the department has initiated the "Partnership To Strengthen Families Project", and it will become the umbrella initiative for the department's prevention and family preservation efforts. The project is designed to strengthen families, decrease the incidence of child abuse and neglect and reduce the need for out-of-home care by supporting a comprehensive, coordinated, and proactive array of community-based services for at-risk families.

OBJECTIVES:

(a) The department will develop a continuum of services in partnership with community organizations that will increase the capacities of at-risk families to nurture their children in healthy environments by providing parents with the knowledge, skills and support they need to do so.

(b) The outcomes of any DFS family support initiative are to reduce all aspects of family violence, including reducing incidences of child abuse and neglect, domestic violence, and elder abuse.

(c) The department will improve the availability of service agencies to deliver coordinated, family-focused services that are preventive, non-punitive, voluntary, and culturally responsive.

(d) The department will create and fund statewide out-of-home placement prevention efforts as resources allow.

(e) The department will promote community awareness of need for family preservation services through public relations efforts, utilizing staff and state and local advisory councils.

(f) The department will develop and implement the Children's Services Reform and Refinancing Project to increase funding available to the system of community and family support services and reorient children's services toward family preservation and family support.

(g) The department will continue to support and develop training curricula that will keep staff and councils up to date on its mission and will enhance their skills and abilities to implement policies and service provisions.

2) JUVENILE CORRECTIONS

GOAL: THE DEPARTMENT WILL REORIENT THE STATE'S OVER-RELIANCE ON SECURE CARE FACILITIES FOR DELINQUENT YOUTH WHILE STRENGTHENING COMMUNITY-BASED CORRECTIONAL SERVICES THAT ARE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE COMMUNITY AND ITS YOUTH.

Mandate(s):

41-5-102, MCA. Montana Youth Court Act.
41-3-1101, and 41-3-1103, MCA. Establishes a system of substitute care for youth.
52-5-101, MCA. Allows DFS to establish, maintain and operate youth correctional facilities.
41-3-1104, MCA. Aftercare of youth released from institutions.

Statement of Purpose:

The department has initiated a reform project in the youth corrections area. The focus of this reform is the appropriate utilization of the two secure care facilities, development of community-based services for delinquent youth, coordination with the other components of the system (probation, youth court, Board of Crime Control, Youth Justice Council). These reforms are built around the philosophy of a balance between accountability, public safety, and skill development of clients. In addition, the department is committed to improving integration of youth corrections with other department activities.

OBJECTIVES:

(a) Provisions for the entire spectrum of youth in the corrections system from "at risk" youth to adjudicated offenders will be included in plans for development of the community corrections system.

(b) The department will continue to support and develop an appropriate training curricula that will keep staff and councils up to date on its mission and will enhance the skills and abilities of staff to implement policies and service provisions.

(c) The department will ensure that all components of the juvenile justice system are working cooperatively on the state and local level.

(d) Treatment will be provided for adjudicated, dangerously mentally ill youth who are not able to be safe in or benefit from placement in correctional institutions or community-based programs.

(e) Juvenile Corrections Division will ensure open communication, collaboration and integration with all DFS divisions.

3) **PROTECTIVE SERVICES/LIFE-LONG PLANNING**

GOAL (1): THE DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY SERVICES WILL PROVIDE PROTECTIVE SERVICES FOR CHILDREN AND ADULTS BY INVESTIGATING ALLEGED INCIDENTS OF ABUSE, NEGLECT, AND EXPLOITATION AND INTERVENING WHEN NECESSARY.

GOAL (2): LIFE-LONG PLANNING: THE DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY SERVICES WILL FOCUS GREATER EMPHASIS ON PROVIDING LIFE-LONG FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN.

Mandate(s):

Title 41, Chapter 3, MCA. Child abuse, Neglect and dependency statute which charges DFS with the primary responsibility of providing child protective services and outlines the legal procedures DFS must follow to obtain the court's sanction of its activities. This chapter also authorizes DFS to issue conditions for and licenses to youth care facilities.

Title IV-E and IV-B of the Social Security Act. Outlines federal requirements for the use of federal IV-E funds for foster care services and IV-B enables states to provide foster care payments for children.

42 USC 5101 et. seq., 45 CFR part 1340. Child Abuse Treatment and Prevention Act sets forth a "model act" for states to follow in providing for the protection of abused and neglected children.

Statement of Purpose:

The primary mandate of the department is to investigate alleged abuse, neglect and exploitation and intervene when the abuse, neglect or exploitation is substantiated. This includes investigation, case management, foster care placement, and long-term planning. The department's efforts will be directed toward family-centered services and planning for life-long family connectedness for all persons in the DFS service system.

GLOBAL OBJECTIVES

All department policies will reflect the belief that every person has a right to a safe and nurturing environment.

Families in contact with the protective services system will have services available which promote their ability to solve and/or cope with problems of every day living.

Department efforts shall focus on the person remaining in his/her home: if remaining in the home is not possible, a connection with a life-long family must be established.

OBJECTIVES GOAL 1: PROTECTIVE SERVICES

(a) The department will respond promptly to all reports of abuse, neglect and exploitation.

(b) The department will ensure that children and youth are served in the most appropriate, least restrictive setting as possible.

(c) The department will expand the role in protecting persons from domestic violence through continued services and special projects.

(d) The department will meet the requirements of the Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children.

OBJECTIVES GOAL 2: LIFE-LONG PLANNING

(a) The department will increasingly shift the focus of service delivery toward serving family units holistically, while protecting the best interests of children and adults.

(b) The department will focus resources on developing life-long families for children and youth unable to return to their birth homes.

(c) The department will expand training designed to enhance the partnership among the department, field staff, biological families and foster and adoptive parents.

(d) The department shall allocate resources equitably between the various regions.

(e) The department shall coordinate and collaborate with other agencies providing services to DFS clients.

(f) Life-long plans will be developed for all children receiving services from the department.

4) TREATMENT SERVICES

GOAL: THE DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY SERVICES WILL WORK COOPERATIVELY WITH OTHER AGENCIES TO PROMOTE A CONTINUUM OF CARE OF COMMUNITY-BASED SERVICES WHICH ARE ACCESSIBLE, AFFORDABLE, AND APPROPRIATE TO THE SPECIFIC NEEDS OF CHILDREN AND YOUTH.

Mandate(s):

House Bill 2

July 1993 Memorandum of Understanding Between the Department of Family Services, Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services, Department of Health and Environmental Services, Office of Public Instruction, Montana Board of Crime Control, and the Department of Corrections and Human Services. The MOU fulfills the legislative directive set forth in Section D of House Bill 2 to collaboratively establish and maintain a coordinated service system for youth with severe emotional disturbance (SED).

Statement of Purpose:

During 1993, the department joined the Department of Corrections and Human Services (DCHS), the Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services (SRS), the Office of Public Instruction (OPI), and the Board of Crime Control (BCC) to develop an interagency approach to serving youth who are emotionally disturbed. This initiative, known as Managing Resources Montana (MRM), stresses local planning and control, shared responsibility, and family involvement. Representing a significant change in how services are planned and provided, MRM will require a good deal of attention during the next several years. In addition, DFS children and youth who are in therapeutic foster care, therapeutic group homes or receiving family-based services must be able to access services.

OBJECTIVES:

(a) The department will work cooperatively with the State Family Services Advisory Council and local family services advisory councils in their efforts to assess community needs.

(b) The department will support communities in their efforts to develop community-based treatment services which address identified needs.

(c) The department will work to reduce the demand for intensive, residential services by supporting the development of local alternatives.

(d) The department will continue, as resources allow, to create, expand and fund, through Medicaid and a variety of other funding sources, family-based treatment and family preservation services.

(e) The department will continue to develop professional standards and training curricula that will enhance the skills and abilities of departmental staff to implement policy and service delivery.

(f) The department will seek new and innovative funding sources to address local needs.

(g) The department will ensure that children and youth in need of treatment are served in the most appropriate, least restrictive setting as possible.

IV. LOCAL COUNCILS

1) NEEDS ASSESSMENTS, LOCAL PLANS, AND EVALUATION

GOAL: LOCAL COUNCILS WILL PROVIDE AN ON-GOING FORUM FOR DISCUSSION OF ISSUES AFFECTING FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES IN THEIR REGION AND DEVELOP LOCAL PLANS WITH SPECIFIC GOALS AND OBJECTIVES. COORDINATION OF INFORMATION CONCERNING LOCAL COUNCILS AND LOCAL PLANS WILL BE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE STATE COUNCIL.

Mandate(s):

Senate Bill 187

Statement of Purpose:

Family service advisory councils were created to serve as the communities access point for department support. The department's relationship with communities is clearly defined in its mission of "supporting the strengths of communities...". Advisory councils are the mechanism used by the department to both identify community strengths and to advise the department as to what it may do to support those strengths.

OBJECTIVES:

(a) Local councils will conduct an assessment of the needs of families and children within their region.

(b) Local councils will develop broad-based, local plans with specific goals and objectives.

(c) Local councils will submit their local plans to the state council for the purpose of statewide coordination.

(d) Local councils will conduct an annual written review and evaluation of needs and services within the local service area and provide a copy to the state council.

ADDENDUM

THE OFFICE ON AGING

The Office on Aging was transferred to DFS effective July 1, 1993. The Office on Aging is headed by the Coordinator of Aging. The governor appoints an Advisory Council on Aging. The council is composed of 11 members, a majority of whom must be 60 years of age or older. Members serve staggered 3-year terms until their successors are appointed. Vacancies must be filled by appointment for the unexpired term. The council advises and assists the governor and the department in planning, coordination and operation of programs within state government that affect senior citizens of the state. The council is allocated to DFS for administrative purposes only.

MONTANA CHILD DAY CARE

The department is designated as the lead agency for the purposes of planning, implementing, and coordinating programs under the Montana Child Care Act. (52-2-704, MCA.) The governor appoints a Child Care Advisory Council to assist the department in carrying out its responsibilities. The council is composed of not less than 10 members, including parents, child-care providers, representatives of state agencies involved in child care and other persons interested in child care. The council shall review and coordinate the statewide child care plan and advise the department on all child care matters. (52-2-705, MCA.)

NATIVE AMERICAN ADVISORY COUNCIL

The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) and the Montana Department of Family Services (DFS) in cooperation with seven tribes in Montana are meeting to facilitate the coordination of resources and programs funded through DFS, BIA and other governmental entities. The goal is to provide a continuum of services and a more comprehensive service network. The Department of Family Services, BIA, and each of the seven tribes have appointed a representative to attend the quarterly meetings. The council met for the first time on August 18, 1994, in Billings.

A VARIETY OF DFS LOCAL SERVICES, FY 1994

- **24-hour emergency services**
- **Emergency shelter:**
  - Receiving homes
  - Shelter care facilities
  - Spouse abuse shelters
- **Child and Adult Protective Service Investigations**
- **Case Planning**
- **Case Management of On-going Cases**
- **Child Protective Services Day Care**

- **Child Care and Development Block Grant Day Care**
- **IV-A At-Risk Child Care, AFDC Day Care and Transitional Day Care**
- **Managing Resources Montana (MRM) for SED youth: case management and treatment**
- **Home-based Family Preservation Services**
  - Family-based services for placement prevention
  - Home attendant services
  - Family therapy
  - Individual and group therapy
  - Social Services
  - Respite Care
  - Training for Parents
- **Juvenile Corrections**
  - Pine Hills School
  - Mountain View School
  - Billings Transition Center
  - Youth Evaluation Program
  - Aftercare services
- **Information/Referral/Follow-up**
  - Alcohol and drug counseling/treatment
  - Financial assistance
  - Handicapped children's services
  - Medical/health services
  - Planned parenthood
  - Legal services
- **Volunteer Programs:**
  - Big Brothers and Sisters
  - Parents' Anonymous (and similar support groups)
- **Foster Care**
  - Permanency planning for life-long family ties
  - Adult Foster Family Care
  - Voluntary placement
  - Court intervention
  - Residential treatment
  - Recruitment and training
  - Judicial determination
- **Case Review Systems**
  - Case plan
  - Periodic review
  - Dispositional hearings
  - Parental participation
- **Adoption Services**
  - Recruitment and training
  - Public awareness

Exchanges
Subsidy
Legal services
Post-adoption services

AUTHORIZATION

2-15-2401, MCA	Provides for the Department of Family Services.
52-1-101, MCA	Defines the department's purpose.
52-2-111 et. seq., MCA	Powers and duties of the department specifically to provide programs to prevent child abuse.

PROTECTIVE SERVICES FOR CHILDREN AND ADULTS

Title 41, Chapter 3, MCA	Child Abuse, Neglect and Dependency statute which charges DFS with the primary responsibility of providing child protective services and outlines the legal procedures DFS must follow to obtain the court's sanction of its activities. This chapter also authorizes DFS to issue conditions for and licenses to youth care facilities.
41-4-101 et. seq., MCA	Interstate Placement of Children states that Montana will cooperate with other states in interstate placements.
52-2-111 et. seq., MCA	Charges DFS with the responsibility for strengthening child welfare services, enforcing all laws pertaining to children, supervising the importation and exportation of children.
52-3-301 et. seq., MCA	DFS may obtain, license and supervise adult foster family care homes.
53-20-301 et. seq., MCA	DFS shall adopt standards and rules concerning the administration, operation, health and safety of community homes for the developmentally disabled.
Section 53-4-301 through 53-4-311, MCA	The Subsidized Adoption Act of 1977 authorizes the department to establish, administer and regulate a continuing program of subsidized adoption.
P.L. 96-272	Adoption and Child Welfare Act of 1980 outlines major safeguards and protection required for children in foster care.

Sections 472, 474 (a), 475 (1), and 477 of Title IV-E of the Social Security Act; 45 CFR Part 92, ACYF-PI-90-16, issued January 12, 1990; ACYF-PI-90-16, issued October 2, 1990.	The IV-E Independent Living Program was re-authorized by the Federal Budget Reconciliation Act passed by Congress in 1989.
Title IV-E: Social Security Act	Outlines federal requirements for the use of federal IV-E funds for foster care services.
42 U.S.C. 5101 et. seq., 45 CFR part 1340	Child Abuse Treatment and Prevention Act sets forth a "model act" for states to follow in providing for the protection of abused and neglected children.
25 USC 1901 et. seq. Indian Child Welfare Act:	Provides for procedures DFS must follow in state court for child abuse, neglect and dependency cases involving Native American children.
42 USC 5101 et. seq.; P.L. 100-294, as amended by 102-295	Authorizes grant funds to states to improve prosecution in child abuse cases while reducing trauma to the child victim.
The Victims of Crime Act of 1984, as amended, ACYF-PI-92-08	Allows distribution of funds to states for purposes of improving child abuse prosecution and related issues.
42 USC 470 et. seq.	Federal Payments for Foster Care and Adoptive Assistance enables each state to provide foster care and adoptive assistance for children.
P.L. 93-66 Sections 212 and PL 93-233: Amendments to the federal Social Security Act	Authorizes states to supplement the Supplemental Security Income (SSI) payments program.
52-1-104, MCA	Department authorized to provide and set standards for supplementary payments. Authorizes DFS to set standards for and make payments to eligible persons who are recipients of SSI.
Title IV-E and Title IV-B of Social Security Act (PL. 96-272)	Federal payments for foster care enables states to provide foster care payments for children.

53-6-101 et. seq., MCA; 42 USC 1396d.	The Montana Medicaid program is authorized to make payment for inpatient psychiatric services in a residential treatment facility.
41-3-1103, MCA	Powers and duties of the department regarding youth residential services gives the department the authority to enter into contracts to provide services for youth in need of care, youth in need of supervision and delinquent youth.

FAMILY AND COMMUNITY SUPPORT SERVICES

Title IV-B of the Social Security Act, Subpart 2. Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993.	Develops plan for Family Preservation and Support Services.
52-2-701 et. seq, MCA	The Montana Child Care Act of 1989 designates the department as the lead state agency in day care issues and establishes a Governor's Child Care Advisory Council. The Act authorizes the department to accept federal funds to improve or promote child care services, implement licensing/registration standards, make payments for day care, and establish a child care resource and referral grant program for R&R services to local communities.
52-2-721, MCA	States that no person, group or corporation shall establish or maintain a day care center for children unless licensed by DFS.
P.L. 98-558; Federal Register, Volume 51, #81:	The HHS Reauthorization Act of 1984 authorizes the allocation of funds to states based on population to meet the goals of the Dependent Care grant.
Child Care and Development Block Grant of 1990 ; 45 CFR, Parts 98 and 99; Federal Register, Volume 57, #150 (8/4/92, final rules)	Authorizes the allocation of funds to states based on population to increase the availability, affordability and quality of child care by means of grants and contracts within the state.

52-6-101 et. seq., MCA	Establishes battered spouses grant programs within the department for the allocation of federal grant money to local battered spouses (domestic violence) programs.
Federal Register vol. 57 No. 32, (Feb. 18, 1992):	Family Violence Prevention and Services
Notice of the availability of FY 1992 funds for state and Indian Tribal grants for family violence prevention and services.	
The Family Violence Prevention and Services Act, Title III of Pub. L. 98-457, as re-authorized and amended by Pub. L. 102-295, Title III of the Child Abuse, Domestic Violence, Adoption and Family Services Act of 1992.	
P.L. 96-212, The Refugee Act of 1980, with 1982 and 1986 amendments. CFR Title 45, Part 400, Refugee Resettlement Program	An act to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act for the admission of refugees and provide uniform basis for the provision of services to refugees.

AGING SERVICES

52-3-201 et. seq., MCA	Protection Services Act for Aged Persons or Disabled Adults. The department is responsible for acting on requests for protective services for these two populations.
52-3-501 et. seq., MCA	Montana Older Americans Act creates the designation of Area Agencies and the State Office on Aging, development of State Plan on Aging, Ombudsman Services, etc.
52-3-801 et. seq., MCA	Montana Elder and Developmentally Disabled Abuse Prevention Act, mandates that DFS shall investigate reports of abuse, neglect or exploitation of these populations and, where appropriate, provide protective services.

P.L. 89-75:	Federal Older Americans Act calls for a State Agency on Aging and for the development of a State Plan on Aging.
P.L. 99 - 272 (COBRA) Sections SS 1915 (g) (1) and (g) (2)	Amendments to the Social Security Act.

JUVENILE CORRECTIONS

41-5-102, MCA Montana Youth Court Act	Provides for payment by the department for services for delinquent youth. A purpose of the act is to remove the element of retribution when dealing with youth committing violations of law by substituting a program of supervision, care, rehabilitation or possibly restitution.
41-3-1101, and 41-3-1103, MCA	Establishes a system of substitute care for youth.
41-3-1104, MCA	Authorizes the department to establish, maintain and administer aftercare programs and facilities for the care, custody and treatment of youth who have been committed to the department.
52-1-105, MCA	Identifies the institutions that are a part of the Department of Family Services.
52-5-101, MCA	Allows Department of Family Services to establish, maintain and operate youth correctional facilities.
52-5-102, MCA	Provides for establishment of standards of care, etc. and provides special programs within each facility adaptable to the particular needs of its operation.
52-5-103, MCA	Allows the department to contract with Indian tribes within the state of Montana to serve their youth.
52-5-106, MCA	Requires Mountain View School to provide its students with the academic and vocational training taught in the public schools and to conform to standards set by the Board of Public Education.

52-5-126 through 52-5-129, MCA	States that youth released by DFS from a youth correctional facility and remaining within the supervision, custody and control of the department shall sign an aftercare agreement specifying the terms and conditions of his/her release.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

State Family Services Advisory Council

52-1-202, MCA	Provides for the composition, terms, and goals of the state council.

Local Family Services Advisory Councils

52-1-203, MCA	Provides for the composition and establishment of local advisory councils.

Child Care Advisory Council

52-2-705, MCA	Provides for the composition, terms, and goals of the Child Care Advisory Council.

Governor's Advisory Council on Aging

2-15-231, MCA	Provides for the composition, terms, and goals of the Governor's Council on Aging.

Children's Trust Fund

41-3-701 et. seq., MCA	Establishes the existence of the trust fund and sets forth its powers and duties.
P.L. 100-294, as amended by 101-126	Provides for the distribution of certain funds to states that have established trust funds and raises money for said trusts to prevent child abuse and neglect.

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